

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT & TRADEMARK OFFICE

Application No. : 10/722,316
Filed : 11/25/2003
Confirmation No. : 9302
Applicants : Tae-Kyung Kim et al.
Title : Connecting A Solenoid To A Lead Frame
Art Unit : 2841
Examiner : Nguyen, Hoa Cao
PDS No. : 03-ASD-159 (EM)

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Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

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January 12, 2006.

1/12/06
Date
Teresa Bonsall
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RESPONSE TO ELECTION / RESTRICTION REQUIREMENT

Applicant elects Invention II (claims 7-16) WITH traverse. The Examiner argued that the process can be used to make a materially different product than the assembly recited in claims 7-16. Applicant respectfully disagrees. Method claims 1-6 recite the way in which the components are disposed and connected so specifically that it is impossible for the claimed method to be used to make anything other than the apparatus in claims 7-16. Independent method claim 1 specifically recites disposing a web between connector terminals on a solenoid, disposing projections on the lead frame on opposite sides of the web, and inserting each of the connector terminals from the solenoid into corresponding slots on the lead frame and engaging the web with the projections on the lead frame. Claim 7 recites the connector terminals, the web, the lead frame with projections, and lead frame slots that engage with the connector terminals on the solenoid described in method claim 1.

The Examiner has not explained how this method could be used to make a product other than a solenoid/lead frame combination with connector terminals that engage with slots on the lead frame and a web that engages with projections on the lead frame, such as the combination in claim 7. The Examiner's argument that "Inserting each of the connector terminals can be performed by a plug-in instead" is not enough to make the method and

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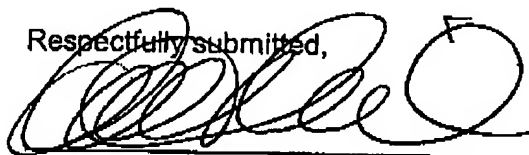
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apparatus distinct from each other, particularly given the specificity of the steps in the method claims.

Applicant therefore respectfully asserts that claims 1-16 are directed to one invention and therefore should be examined together. Withdrawal of the restriction requirement is respectfully requested.

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any fees which may be required or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 05-0275.

Respectfully submitted,



Dated: 1/12/06

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